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Examiner: Hoffman, John M

Group Art Unit: 1731

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor:

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Title:

FURNACE ASSEMBLY FOR

HEATING AN OPTICAL

WAVEGUIDE PREFORM

Mail Stop Appeal Brief-Patents Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDED BRIEF ON APPEAL

This Brief supports the appeal to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences from the final rejection dated January 19, 2005, in the application listed above. Appellant filed the Notice of Appeal on May 4, 2005. Appellant now submits this Amended Brief in response to the Examiner's Notification of Non-Compliant Appeal Brief as required by 37 C.F.R. § 41.37.

I. REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

The real party in interest in this appeal is Corning Incorporated.

II. RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

With respect to related appeals, interferences, or judicial proceedings that will directly affect, or be directly affected by, or have a bearing on the Board's decision in this appeal, there are no such appeals, interferences, or judicial proceedings.

III. STATUS OF CLAIMS

On May 4, 2005 appellant appealed from the final rejections of claims 1-12, 38-43, 47, and 48, which were rejected in the final Office Action dated January 19, 2005. Those are the pending claims that are the subject of this Appeal and are set forth in the attached Appendix. Claims 13-26, 29-37, and 44-46 are withdrawn and claims 27, 28, and 43 are canceled.

IV. STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

There are no amendments that have not been entered by the Examiner. The last amendment to the claims was made in the Amendment and Response which was filed on December 21, 2004.

V. SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

Claim 1 relates to a furnace assembly for heating an optical waveguide preform, the furnace assembly comprising a furnace including:

a muffle tube 110 defining a furnace passage 111, the furnace passage 111 having a length extending from a first end to a second end;

a top plate 120 mounted and resting on a terminal end of the muffle tube 110 at the second end and an central opening 122 defined in the top plate 120, said top plate 120 including a lower surface in contact with the terminal end and an upper surface opposite the lower surface; and

- a heating device 118 operative to heat the furnace passage 111;
- a process gas supply 150 providing a process gas to the furnace passage 111;
- a handle 130 disposed in the furnace passage 111, said handle including a coupling portion 134 which is adapted to hold the waveguide preform 5 and the handle 130 extends through the exit opening;

a flow shield 160 positioned between the first and second ends and extending across the furnace passage 111 between the handle 130 and the muffle tube 110, the flow shield arranged and configured to restrict flow of the process gas from the first end to the second end of the furnace passage; and

a washer 174 mounted about the handle, contacting the upper surface of the top plate 120 and covering a portion of the central opening 122. (See Fig. 1 and page 4, line 25 through page 6, line 25.).

Claim 41 relates to a furnace assembly adapted to heat an optical fiber preform 5, comprising:

a muffle 110 tube defining a furnace passage 111, the passage including a length extending from an inlet opening 112 at a first end to an outlet opening 114 at a second end, and a flange 116 on the second end,

a top plate 120 mounted on a top of the muffle tube 110 and covering the second end and the outlet opening 114 and including a central opening 122 therein, said top plate including a lower surface in contact with the flange and an upper surface opposed thereto,

a process gas supply 150 adapted to supply a process gas in the passage directed from the first end to the second end,

a handle 130 adapted to suspend the preform 5 within the passage,

a flow shield 160 positioned in the passage between the preform 5 and the second end and extending between the handle 130 and the muffle tube 110, wherein the flow shield 160 is configured to enable restriction of flow of the process gas, and

a washer 174 mounted about the handle 130 and in contact with the upper surface of the top plate 120 and covering a portion of the central opening 122 (Fig. 1 and page 4, line 25 through page 6, line 25).

Claim 42 relates to a furnace assembly adapted to heat an optical fiber preform, said assembly comprising:

a muffle tube 110 including a tubular body and a passage 111;

a top plate 120 having a lower surface mounted in contact with an end of the muffle tube 110 and an upper surface opposite the lower surface, the top plate 120 extending radially inward from the tubular body 110 and including a central opening 122 therein;

a gas supply 150 for supplying process gas to the passage;

a handle 130 traversing the central opening 122 in the top plate 120 and adapted to suspend the preform in the passage from a coupling portion 134 formed on a lower end of the handle 130;

a flow shield 160 positioned in the passage between the coupling portion 134 and the top plate 120, wherein the flow shield 160 is configured such that a radial peripheral edge of

the flow shield 160 and a cylindrical inside surface of the muffle tube 110 form a marginal gap having a width of between 2.5 and 25 mm to enable restriction of the gas; and

a washer 174 positioned over the central opening 122 and in contact with the upper surface of the top plate 120, the handle 130 extending through the washer 174 wherein the washer 174 inhibits air entry into the passage (see Fig. 1 and page 4, line 25 through page 6, line 25).

Claim 47 relates to a furnace assembly for heating an optical waveguide preform, the furnace assembly comprising:

- a furnace 100 including:
- a muffle tube 110 defining a furnace passage 111, the furnace passage 111 having a length extending from a first end to a second end;
- a top plate 120 mounted on a terminal end of the muffle tube 110 at the second end, said top plate 120 including a lower surface, an upper surface opposed to the first surface, and a central opening 122 defined in the top plate 120; and
 - a heating device 118 operative to heat the furnace passage;
 - a process gas supply 150 providing a process gas to the furnace passage 111;
- a handle 130 disposed in the furnace passage 111, said handle 130 including a coupling portion 134 which is adapted to hold the waveguide preform 5 and the handle extends through the central opening 122;
- a flow shield 160 positioned between the first and second ends and extending across the furnace passage 111 between the handle 130 and the muffle tube 110, the flow shield 160 arranged and configured to restrict flow of the process gas from the first end to the second end of the furnace passage 111; and
- a plurality of washers 172, 174 mounted above the top plate 120 and about the handle 130 and covering a portion of the exit opening wherein at least one of the washers 174 is in contact with the top plate 120 and at least two of the washers are in contact with each other. (See Fig. 1 and page 4, line 25 through page 6, line 25.)

Claim 48 relates to a furnace assembly, comprising:

- a furnace 100 including:
- a muffle tube 110 defining a furnace passage 111, the furnace passage having a length extending from a first end to a second end;
 - a top plate 120 mounted on top of the muffle tube 110 at the second end, the top plate

having a central opening 122 formed therein; and

- a heating device 118 operative to heat the furnace passage 111;
- a process gas supply 150 providing a process gas to the furnace passage 111;
- a handle 130 disposed in the furnace passage 111 and extending through the central opening 122, the handle 130 including a coupling portion 134;
- a flow shield 160 mounted on the handle 130 and positioned between the first and second ends and extending across the furnace passage 111 between the handle 130 and the muffle tube 110, the flow shield 160 arranged and configured to restrict flow of the process gas from the first end to the second end of the furnace passage;
- a cylindrical spacer 162 mounted about the handle 130 and spacing the flow shield 160 from the coupling portion 134; and
- a plurality of washers 172, 174 mounted above the top plate 120 and about the handle 130 and at least one washer 174 is in contact with the top plate 120 and is covering a portion of the central opening 122 and at least two of the plurality of washers 172, 174 are in contact with each other. (See Fig. 1 and page 4, line 25 through page 6, line 25.)

VI. GROUNDS OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL

The claims are currently rejected by the Patent Office as follows:

1) Claims 1-12, 38-43, and 47-48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 2000-44269 in view of Drouart 5931984, Kaiser 4030901, Ryoji JP 02212325, Gilbreath 6447017, Haney 4347069, and Collins 5408865.

VII. ARGUMENT

The rejection of claims 1-12, 38-43, and 47-48 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 2000-44269 in view of Drouart 5931984, Kaiser 4030901, Ryoji JP 02212325, Gilbreath 6447017, Haney 4347069, and Collins 5408865 is improper

A proper *prima facie* showing of obviousness requires the examiner to satisfy three requirements. First, the prior art relied upon, coupled with knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, must contain some suggestion which would have motivated the skilled artisan to combine references. See In re Fine, 837 F.2d 1071, 1074, 5 USPQ2d

1596, 1598 (Fed. Cir. 1988). Second, the examiner must show that, at the time the invention was made, the proposed modification had a reasonable expectation of success. <u>See Amgen v. Chugai Pharm. Co.</u>, 927 F.2d 1200, 1209, 18 USPQ2d 1016, 1023 (Fed. Cir. 1991). Finally, the combination of references must teach or suggest each and every limitation of the claimed invention. <u>See In re Wilson</u>, 424 F.2d 1382, 1385, 165 USPQ 494, 496 (CCPA 1970).

Claims 1-12, 38-43, and 47-48 are rejected <u>under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)</u> as being <u>unpatentable over JP 2000-44269</u> in view of <u>Drouart 5931984</u>, <u>Kaiser 4030901</u>, <u>Ryoji JP 02212325</u>, <u>Gilbreath 6447017</u>, <u>Haney 4347069</u>, and <u>Collins 5408865</u>. According to the Examiner in the Office Action dated June 14, 2004, "since there is no translation [of JP 2000-44269] available US Patent 6543257 is relied upon to show what the Japanese reference discloses."

In the Final Rejection dated January 19, 2005, the Examiner instructed applicants to "see how the art was previously applied in the rejection of 9/20/2004". As far as applicants are aware there is no rejection dated 9/20/2004, applicants assume the Examiner is referring to the Office Action dated 9/23/2004.

According to the Examiner in the Office Action mailed on 9/23/2004, "Gilbreath, Haney and Collins are cited as evidence that o-rings and washers are equivalent sealing devices." Applicants respectfully disagree that these three references indicate that o-rings and washers are "equivalent".

Contrary to the Examiner's assertions, none of the references cited by the Examiner expressly indicate that o-rings and/or washers are equivalents. Simply because two items are mentioned in the same sentence does not mean they are "equivalent".

As further evidence that o-rings are not equivalent to washers, applicants submitted definitions of o-ring and washer from Websters Third New International Dictionary (copyright 1993). O-ring is defined as "a flat ring of synthetic rubber used as a gasket in sealing a joint against high pressures." Washer is defined as "any of various flat thin rings or perforated plates (as of metal or leather) used in joints for assemblies to ensure tightness, prevent leakage, or relieve friction." The definition of o-ring is consistent with the use of the o-ring in JP2000-44269, i.e., as a sealing gasket. Clearly, a washer is not the equivalent of an o-ring, as a washer does not have to seal against high pressure. According to the Examiner in the Advisory Action dated March 31st, 2005, "Whereas applicant argues that merely mentioning the features in the same sentence does not constitute equivalence, such is not very

relevant because such is not the basis for the Office's conclusion. The Office considered what the sentences actually teaches about o-rings, washers and equivalence. Applicants arguments fail to addressed the actual teachings of the prior art – and what they suggest to one of ordinary skill. Examiner has considered the teachings once again and remains convinced they teach that o-rings and washers are equivalents."

Applicants have carefully considered these new assertions by the Patent Office. The Patent Office seems to imply that each of the references teach that o-rings and washers are equivalent. Again, applicants have gone back and reviewed each of these references individually and none of them seem to say anything of the sort. Applicants have also reviewed the comments by the Examiner with respect to these references in the September 23, 2004 Office Action. In that Office Action the Examiner merely indicates that these references are cited as evidence that o-rings and washers are equivalent sealing devices, with no explanation of why the Examiner believes this is evidence of that fact. While it may be true that there are applications where either an o-ring or a washer will suffice, clearly this is not always the case (and thus they are not equivalents), and it is certainly not the case with applicants claimed invention.

According to the Examiner in the non-final rejection dated 9/23/2004, "the invention as claimed is known as per Koaizawa Figure 1, in columns 3-4. As described in US Patent No. 6543257 which is the US equivalent to JP2000-44269, the apparatus in Fig. 1 of JP2000-44269 discloses an o-ring rather than the claimed washer. In view of the six secondary references, it would have been obvious to place a sealing washer over the Koaizawa (JP2000-44269) plate since such is a known equivalent to an o-ring seal." Thus, the Examiner, in his rejection of all of the claims of record, appears to utilize Fig. 1 and suggests that there is motivation in JP2000-44269 and the other prior art references to modify Fig. 1 of JP2000-44269 as defined by applicants claims. Applicants respectfully disagree.

First, as explained above, washers are not the equivalent of an o-ring seal. There is no teaching in any of the references cited that would motivate one of skill in the art to substitute a washer over the top plate of JP2000-446529 in replacement for the o-ring seal which is located in the shaft passage of JP2000-44269. Further, applicants submit that, even if the references were combinable as the Examiner suggests, such a combination would not result in applicants' claimed invention. In particular, the passage from US Patent No. 6543257 which was referred to by the Examiner himself (column 4, line 50-62 of US Patent No. 6543257)

indicates that "It has been proposed to perform the sealing by providing a seal member made of an o-ring in the elevating shaft passage of the upper lid 31 under which the elevating shaft 41 passes." Note first that the language in this passage is consistent with the definition of O-ring, that is, the purpose of the ring is to seal against high pressures. One would therefore not be motivated to substitute the washer for the o-ring, because the o-ring seals against high pressures, while washers do not. Also, if one were to substitute a washer for the o-ring in the JP2000-44269 Figure 1 apparatus, that washer would be disposed within the shaft passage of the lid 31. However, rather than merely substituting a washer in the same location as the o-ring of JP2000-44269, the Examiner appears to further suggest that it would have been obvious to place a sealing washer, not in the shaft passage of the upper lid as JP2000-44269 actually indicates, but over the JP2000-44269 plate. There is clearly no suggestion of placing either a washer or an o-ring in this location in JP2000-44269.

Applicants submit that there is no motivation to supply a washer over the JP2000-44269 plate instead of the O-ring which is employed. Applicants' claim requires a washer mounted about the handle, contacting the upper surface of the top plate and covering a portion of the central opening. Even if, assuming arguendo, one would consider using a washer in place of the o-ring utilized by JP2000-44269, substitution of that washer in place of the o-ring in JP2000-44269 would not result in applicants' invention.

In addition, it should be recognized that the intended function (reliable sealing) of JP2000-44269 would be destroyed if the modification proposed by the Examiner is adapted. The Examiner indicated that applicants did not provide evidence as to how the intended function of JP2000-44269 would be destroyed. Repeatedly throughout JP2000-44269, upper lid is described as being reliably sealed (see, for example, column 7, lines 27-30 and 44-53, column 8, lines 25-33, column 16, lines 20-25, column 18, lines 40-58, and column 27, lines 43-50 of US Patent No. 6543257). That is why in JP2000-44269 the applicants chose an oring, i.e. to achieve a reliable seal (again, see the definition of o-ring above). Ryoji, on the other hand, is a leaky system allowing some exhaust gas to exit around the washer.

The Examiner indicates that feature 5 in JP2000-44269 is a flow shield. Applicants respectfully disagree that feature 5 in JP2000-44269 can be construed to be a flow shield. A flow shield as that term is employed in applicants specification is a device which is arranged and configured to restrict flow of the process gas from the first end to the second end of the furnace passage (see for example, page 2, lines 10-11 of US Patent No. 6543257). The

perform holder 5 in JP2000-44269 clearly does not extend across the furnace enough to restrict flow of the process gas, and in fact only serves to hold the optical fiber perform in place.

The Examiner states that, alternatively, "JP2000-44269 teaches to have the same furnace as figure 1 with the shield of figures 3-4. See Col 19, line 28. In other words: altering the known figure 1 apparatus to include the shield 28 of figures 3-4." Applicants disagree that Col 19 line 28 suggests anything of the sort. In fact, what col 19, lines 25-30 actually indicates is that in Figs. 3 and 4, parts given the same reference numerals as the apparatus illustrated in Fig. 1 and 2 are the same as or similar to the parts illustrated in Fig. 1 and 2. There is no shield 28 shown in Fig. 1, so there is no suggestion in this passage to use a shield 28 in the apparatus shown in Fig. 1. In other words, with respect to the shield 28 in Fig. 3, there is no similar part in Fig. 1, so the passage referred to by the Examiner is irrelevant, and does not teach or suggest as the Examiner indicates.

For all of the above reasons, it is submitted that claims 1, 41, 42, 47, and 48 are in condition for allowance.

With respect to claim 2, there is clearly no formation of an isolation chamber 102 between the perform holder 5 in Koaizama and the second end.

With respect to claim 3, there is clearly no mention or suggestion of maintaining a the gap between the peripheral edge and the muffle define a marginal gap between 2.5mm and 25mm. The Examiner indicates that "col. 24, lines 60-62 indicates that the means-cuminsulating means (of which 28 is one) is between 5-20 mm". However, as explained above, there is clearly no suggestion of using element 28 in the apparatus disclosed in Fig 1, as the Examiner proposes in his rejection.

There is no mention of suggestion in the prior art cited of having the flow shield have a thickness of greater than 6mm, as defined by claim 4.

With respect to claim 5, there is no mention or suggestion in any of the references cited of having the handle extend through the top plate and the flow shield disposed between the coupling portion and the top plate. In fact, the Examiner actually takes the position in his rejection that the coupling portion is the flow shield. Coupling portion is defined in applicants' specification as the part that is arranged and configured to hold and suspend the optical fiber preform (see for example page 5, lines 5-7 of applicants' specification). Clearly that would equate to feature 5 in JP2000-44269, as feature 5 clearly is configured to hold the

preform. This clearly demonstrates the problem with this rejection, that is, the flow shield obviously cannot be positioned between itself and something else. Clearly, the preform holder in JP2000-44269 is not a flow shield.

With respect to claim 7, the Examiner indicates that we should see Fig. 10, but he does not indicate why one should see Fig. 10. Applicants respectfully submit that nothing in Fig 10 would motivate one of skill in the art to modify Fig.1 of JP2000-44269 to include a spacer which separates the flow shield from the coupling portion. In fact, in the Examiner's rejection, what the Examiner refers to as a flow shield is in fact a coupling portion, not a flow shield. Likewise with respect to claim 8, which further indicates that the spacing distance should be at least 50 mm. Applicants submit that one cannot space the perform holder 5 in Fig. 1 50 mm from itself.

With respect to claim 9, the Examiner indicates "see column 22, lines 18-19". Again, this passage refers to insulating means 28 in Fig. 6, and as explained above there is no motivation to use insulating means 28 in the Fig. 1 embodiment. Nor is there any mention of combining the teachings of the Fig. 6 embodiment with that of the prior art Fig. 1 embodiment.

With respect to claims 39-40, the Examiner indicates to "see Figure 20". Applicants have seen Fig. 20, and submit that there is nothing in Fig. 20 that would suggest to one of skill in the art that Fig. 1 should be modified. Further, Fig. 20 lacks anything that could possibly be construed to be a top plate. Further, there does not appear to be either an o-ring or a top plate in Fig. 20.

For at least the reasons given above, Appellants assert that the Examiner has failed to make a *prima facie* case of obviousness, and that the Board should reverse the §103 rejection and find that claims 1-12, 38-43, and 47-48, are allowable over the prior art of record.

Conclusion

In conclusion, Appellants request a reversal of each of the grounds of rejection maintained by the Examiner and prompt allowance of the pending claims 1-12, 38-43, and 47-48.

Please charge the fees due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(c) to Deposit Account No. 03-3325. If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this Brief on Appeal, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 03-3325. If a fee is required for an extension of

time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: September 30, 2005

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope Addressed to: Mail Stop Appeal Brief,

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VIII. CLAIMS APPENDIX

The claims on appeal are as follows:

1. **(rejected)** A furnace assembly for heating an optical waveguide preform, the furnace assembly comprising:

a furnace including:

a muffle tube defining a furnace passage, the furnace passage having a length extending from a first end to a second end;

a top plate mounted and resting on a terminal end of the muffle tube at the second end and an central opening defined in the top plate, said top plate including a lower surface in contact with the terminal end and an upper surface opposite the lower surface; and

a heating device operative to heat the furnace passage;

a process gas supply providing a process gas to the furnace passage;

a handle disposed in the furnace passage, said handle including a coupling portion which is adapted to hold the waveguide preform and the handle extends through the exit opening;

a flow shield positioned between the first and second ends and extending across the furnace passage between the handle and the muffle tube, the flow shield arranged and configured to restrict flow of the process gas from the first end to the second end of the furnace passage; and

a washer mounted about the handle, contacting the upper surface of the top plate and covering a portion of the central opening.

- 2. **(rejected)** The furnace assembly of Claim 1 wherein the flow shield defines an isolation chamber between the flow shield and the second end.
- 3. **(rejected)** The furnace assembly of Claim 1 wherein the flow shield has a peripheral edge adjacent the muffle, and the peripheral edge and the muffle define a marginal gap therebetween having a width of between about 2.5 mm and 25 mm.
- 4. (rejected) The furnace assembly of Claim 1 wherein the flow shield has a thickness

Application No: 09/941,383 greater than about 6 mm.

- 5. **(rejected)** The furnace assembly of Claim 1 wherein: the handle extends through the top plate at the second end of the passage; and the flow shield is disposed between the coupling portion and the top plate.
- 6. **(rejected)** The furnace assembly of Claim 1 wherein the flow shield is coupled to the handle.
- 7. **(rejected)** The furnace assembly of Claim 1 wherein the handle includes a spacer longitudinally separating the flow shield from the coupling portion.
- 8. **(rejected)** The furnace assembly of Claim 7 wherein the spacer separates the flow shield from the preform a distance of at least 50 mm.
- 9. **(rejected)** The furnace assembly of Claim 1 wherein the flow shield is formed of at least one material selected from the group consisting of fused silica, fused quartz, ceramic, silicon carbide, ceramic coated fused silica, and ceramic coated fused quartz, and combinations thereof.
- 10. (rejected) The furnace assembly of Claim 1 wherein the handle is formed of at least one material selected from the group consisting of fused silica, fused quartz, ceramic, ceramic coated fused silica, and ceramic coated fused quartz, and combinations thereof.
- 11. **(rejected)** The furnace assembly of Claim 1 wherein the furnace is a waveguide preform holding furnace.
- 12. **(rejected)** The furnace assembly of Claim 1 wherein the furnace is a waveguide preform consolidation furnace.
- 13. **(withdrawn)** The furnace assembly of Claim 1 further comprising a second flow shield extending across the furnace passage between the handle and the muffle, the first and

second flow shields being arranged and configured to restrict flow of the process gas from the first end to the second end, wherein the second flow shield is spaced apart from the first flow shield along the length of the furnace passage.

- 14. **(withdrawn)** The furnace assembly of Claim 13 including a spacer positioned between the first and second flow shields.
- 15. (withdrawn) The furnace assembly of Claim 1 further comprising a second flow shield extending across the furnace passage between the handle and the muffle, the first and second flow shields being arranged and configured to restrict flow of the process gas from the first end to the second end, wherein the second flow shield is located substantially immediately adjacent the first flow shield.
- 16. **(withdrawn)** The furnace assembly of Claim 1 wherein: the furnace includes an end wall; the flow shield is spaced apart from the end wall and connected thereto by at least one connecting member; and the handle is free to move relative to the flow shield.
- 17. **(withdrawn)** The furnace assembly of Claim 1 including a longitudinally extending shield collar extending from the flow shield toward one of the first and second ends, the shield collar including an outer surface facing the muffle, wherein the outer surface and the muffle define a lengthwise restrictive flow passage therebetween.
- 18. **(withdrawn)** The furnace assembly of Claim 17 wherein the restrictive flow passage has a gap dimension between the outer face and the muffle of between about 2.5 and 25 mm.
- 19. **(withdrawn)** The furnace assembly of Claim 17 wherein the restrictive passage has a length of between about 25 and 250 mm.
- 20. (withdrawn) The furnace assembly of Claim 17 including a longitudinally extending second shield collar disposed within the first shield collar and including an inner surface

facing the handle, wherein the inner surface and the handle define a lengthwise second restrictive passage therebetween.

- 21. **(withdrawn)** The furnace assembly of Claim 20 wherein the second restrictive passage has a gap width between the inner surface and the handle of between about 1 and 20 mm.
- 22. **(withdrawn)** The furnace assembly of Claim 20 wherein the second restrictive passage has a length of between about 25 and 250 mm.
- 23. (withdrawn) The furnace assembly of Claim 20 wherein: the furnace includes an end wall and an exit opening defined in the end wall; the handle extends through the exit opening; and the second shield collar extends from the end wall into the furnace passage and surrounds the exit opening.
- 24. **(withdrawn)** The furnace assembly of Claim 1 wherein: the furnace includes an end wall and an exit opening defined in the end wall; and the flow shield comprises a shield collar extending from the end wall into the furnace passage and surrounding the exit opening.
- 25. **(withdrawn)** The furnace assembly of Claim 24 wherein the shield collar forms a lengthwise restrictive flow passage with at least one of the muffle and the handle.
- 26. **(withdrawn)** The furnace assembly of Claim 25 wherein the handle extends through the exit opening and the shield collar and the muffle define a first lengthwise restrictive flow passage therebetween and the shield collar and the handle define a second lengthwise restrictive flow passage therebetween.
- 27. (canceled)
- 28. (canceled)

29. (withdrawn) The furnace assembly of Claim 1 including:

a supply of a second process gas; and

a gas port in fluid communication with the second process gas supply and positioned to direct the second process gas into the furnace passage adjacent a side of the flow shield opposite the preform.

- 30. (withdrawn) The furnace assembly of Claim 29 wherein the first and second process gases are the same.
- 31. **(withdrawn)** The furnace assembly of Claim 30 wherein the first and second process gas supplies are the same.
- 32. **(withdrawn)** The furnace assembly of Claim 29 wherein the second process gas is selected from the group consisting of Ar, He, and N₂, and mixtures thereof.
- 33. **(withdrawn)** The furnace assembly of Claim 29 wherein the gas port is formed in the handle, the handle further comprising a handle passage extending through the handle and fluidly connecting the second process gas supply and the gas port.
- 34. **(withdrawn)** The furnace assembly of Claim 33 further comprising a second flow shield extending across the furnace passage between the handle and the muffle, the first and second flow shields being arranged and configured to restrict flow of the first process gas from the first end to the second end, wherein:

the second flow shield is spaced apart from the first flow shield along the length of the furnace passage; and

the gas port is positioned between the first and second flow shields.

35. **(withdrawn)** The furnace assembly of Claim 1 including a processing gas port in fluid communication with the process gas supply and positioned to direct the process gas into the furnace passage adjacent a side of the flow shield closest to the preform.

- 36. **(withdrawn)** The furnace assembly of Claim 1 wherein the handle is free to move relative to the flow shield and the muffle includes a ledge adapted to support the flow shield.
- 37. **(withdrawn)** The furnace assembly of Claim 35 wherein the process gas is selected from the group consisting of Cl₂, SiF₄, CF₄, SF₆, NF₃, GeCl₄, SiCl₄, POCl₃, BCl₃, BF₃, PCl₃, C₂F₆, and CO, and mixtures thereof.
- 38. **(rejected)** The furnace assembly of Claim 1 wherein the handle is movable relative to the muffle and the flow shield is mounted on the handle for movement therewith.
- 39. **(rejected)** The furnace assembly of Claim 38 including a drive assembly operable to translate the handle and the flow shield relative to the muffle.
- 40. **(rejected)** The furnace assembly of Claim 38 including a drive assembly operable to rotate the handle and the flow shield relative to the muffle.
- 41. **(rejected)** A furnace assembly adapted to heat an optical fiber preform, comprising: a muffle tube defining a furnace passage, the passage including a length extending from an inlet opening at a first end to an outlet opening at a second end, and a flange on the second end,
- a top plate mounted on a top of the muffle tube and covering the second end and the outlet opening and including an central opening therein, said top plate including a lower surface in contact with the flange and an upper surface opposed thereto,
- a process gas supply adapted to supply a process gas in the passage directed from the first end to the second end,
 - a handle adapted to suspend the preform within the passage,
- a flow shield positioned in the passage between the preform and the second end and extending between the handle and the muffle tube, wherein the flow shield is configured to enable restriction of flow of the process gas, and
- a washer mounted about the handle and in contact with the upper surface of the top plate and covering a portion of the central opening.

42. **(rejected)** A furnace assembly adapted to heat an optical fiber preform, said assembly comprising:

a muffle tube including a tubular body and a passage;

a top plate having a lower surface mounted in contact with an end of the muffle tube and an upper surface opposite the lower surface, the top plate extending radially inward from the tubular body and including a central opening therein;

a gas supply for supplying process gas to the passage;

a handle traversing the central opening in the top plate and adapted to suspend the preform in the passage from a coupling portion formed on a lower end of the handle; and

a flow shield positioned in the passage between the coupling portion and the top plate, wherein the flow shield is configured such that a radial peripheral edge of the flow shield and a cylindrical inside surface of the muffle tube form a marginal gap having a width of between 2.5 and 25 mm to enable restriction of the gas; and

a washer positioned over the central opening and in contact with the upper surface of the top plate, the handle extending through the washer wherein the washer inhibits air entry into the passage.

43. (canceled)

44. (withdrawn) A method of manufacturing an optical fiber preform, comprising the steps of:

flowing a process gas in a furnace passage of a muffle tube from a first end to a second end, the furnace passage having the optical fiber preform mounted therein, and

restricting flow of the process gas using a flow shield positioned in the passage between the preform and the second end and extending between a handle and the muffle tube.

- 45. **(withdrawn)** The method of Claim 44 wherein the process gas is flowed through the muffle tube at a rate of no more than 30 slpm.
- 46. (withdrawn) The method of Claim 44 wherein the process gas is flowed through the muffle tube at a rate of no more than 10 slpm.

- 47. **(rejected)** A furnace assembly for heating an optical waveguide preform, the furnace assembly comprising:
 - a furnace including:
- a muffle tube defining a furnace passage, the furnace passage having a length extending from a first end to a second end;
- a top plate mounted on a terminal end of the muffle tube at the second end, said top plate including a lower surface, an upper surface opposed to the first surface, and a central opening defined in the top plate; and
 - a heating device operative to heat the furnace passage;
 - a process gas supply providing a process gas to the furnace passage;
- a handle disposed in the furnace passage, said handle including a coupling portion which is adapted to hold the waveguide preform and the handle extends through the central opening;
- a flow shield positioned between the first and second ends and extending across the furnace passage between the handle and the muffle tube, the flow shield arranged and configured to restrict flow of the process gas from the first end to the second end of the furnace passage; and
- a plurality of washers mounted above the top plate and about the handle and covering a portion of the exit opening wherein at least one of the washers is in contact with the top plate and at least two of the washers are in contact with each other.
- 48. **(rejected)** A furnace assembly, comprising:
 - a furnace including:
- a muffle tube defining a furnace passage, the furnace passage having a length extending from a first end to a second end;
- a top plate mounted on top of the muffle tube at the second end, the top plate having a central opening formed therein; and
 - a heating device operative to heat the furnace passage;
 - a process gas supply providing a process gas to the furnace passage;
- a handle disposed in the furnace passage and extending through the central opening, the handle including a coupling portion;
 - a flow shield mounted on the handle and positioned between the first and second ends

and extending across the furnace passage between the handle and the muffle tube, the flow shield arranged and configured to restrict flow of the process gas from the first end to the second end of the furnace passage;

a cylindrical spacer mounted about the handle and spacing the flow shield from the coupling portion; and

a plurality of washers mounted above the top plate and about the handle and at least one washer is in contact with the top plate and is covering a portion of the central_opening and at least two of the plurality of washers are in contact with each other.

IX. EVIDENCE APPENDIX

Definitions of o-ring and washer from Websters Third New International Dictionary (copyright 1993) were submitted with Applicant's amendment dated March 21, 2005. Evidence was entered by the Examiner on March 29, 2005, as stated on the Advisory Action mailed March 31, 2005.

X. RELATED PROCEEDINGS APPENDIX

None

Webster's Third New International Dictionary

OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE
UNABRIDGED



A GENUINE MERRIAM-WEBSTER

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consequences usought, direct insight, or constructive imagination; CREATIVE, FERTILE, GERMINAL, DOVENTIVE (esteemed as an an amount of which copies of which copies original hid n is use initial bill of an equity proceeding not already before the court between the same parties standing in the same interests and consisting of a statement of the court between the same parties standing in the same interests and consisting of a statement of the court between the same parties standing in the same interests and consisting of a statement of the court of complaint and petition for relief original constant n: SOCIAL CONTRACT original const n 1: HETORICAL COST 2 2 in public utility practice: the cost of a property to that owner who first devoted it to public service 3 in real estate practice: the cost of a property to a present owner regardless of cost to a prignal germ n: the intest adhesive sure sea a service as an account of the prior owner.

devoted it to public service of a prosent owner regardless of cost to a prior owner regardless of cost to a prior owner not a prosent owner regardless of cost to a prior owner not a prior owner not be a prior of the state of being authentic or genuine 2 a : freshness of aspect or design : independence or newness of style or character (modern Brazilian architecture ... is full of ~ and, above all, vitality —William Tate) b : the power of independent thought or perception : capacity for constructive imagination or significant innovation : creative ability (the directness of blumt truth and ... a bardine ~ and vigor —C.B.Taylor) 3 a patient low: creation of a useful device, design, or process not before known or created b copyright law: novelty in the form of expression rather than in subject matter original jurisdiction n : jurisdiction of first instance : authority of a count that takes cognizance of a conuroversy at the inception of legal proceedings therein originally [virign*][s, inall, [ii] and 1 archaic: by origin or derivation: from the first | negerinally (power ~ the people's) 2: in the beginning: in the first place: Nutrally, remarking 3: in a fresh or original manner (rebinding of single books demanding ... ~ designed covers —Edith Original minor scale n: Natural amona reterive books and

single books demanding ... ~ designed covers —Edith Dishi)
Dishi) original minor scale n: NATURAL MNOR SCALE original package doctrine n: a doctrine whereby goods and commodities imported from one state of the U.S. into another or from a foreign country are usn. protected from being subject to the laws of the state of importation until sale is made by the importer so long as they are contained, or receptacle accepted from the shipper by the carrier and delivered in the original unbrother individual package, container, or receptacle accepted from the shipper by the carrier and delivered in the same from to the importer original process n: an original writ or summons issued by authority of a court as the foundation of and first step in a lawsuit, including always a notice to the defendant when to appear to make his defense and often an order to arrest the defendant, seize or attach his property, or garnishes a claim due from a third person to the defendant or an order that the defendant do or refrain from doing a specified act in connection with the suit — distinguished from final process and mesne process original sin n [ME, trans. of MI percutum originale]: hereditary sin or defect often held in Christian theology to be transmitted from one generation to the next and inherited by each person as a consequence of the original sinful choice made by the first man of the human race — compare ACTIAL SN original with a [ME, trans. of ML breve originale] 1: as writ issued under the great seal by which in English law the jarisdiction of the court was laid in beginning personal actions until the summons was substituted by the Judicature Act of 1873 — compare JUDICIAL WRIT, FRAECIPS 2: ORIGINAL PROCESS Privess orig.i-nami \ə¹rij(ə)nənt\ adj [origin + -ant] archaic : Arisina,

1873 — compare judicial writ, fractife 2. Original Process on 184-man (2016) on the day [origin + -ant] archait: Arising, origin-tharty \-ja, nerf\ adj [LL originarius, ir, L origin-, origin origin-hary \-ja, nerf\ adj [LL originarius, ir, L origin-, originarius, adj.] on the day archait: constituting a source or cause originary n -s [LL originarii (pl.), ir, pl. of originarius, adj.] ob:: Native, originary n -s [LL originarii (pl.), ir, pl. of originarius, adj.] ob:: National of the originarius of the property of the originary n -s [LL originarii (pl.), ir, pl. of originarius, adj.] ob:: National originarion ir, originarion or originarion or originarion originarior

appears on one side into pages or columns and that sometimes has laced-on covers
oril-lon \(\text{original} \) or oril-lion \(\text{orilyan} \) \(n \text{-s} \) [F orillon, in, in, intte ear, dim of oreille ear, fr. L auricula, dim of auricular ear — more at EAR] archaic: a projection built out at the corner of a bastion between flank and face from which to ori-nasal \(\text{for} \), \(\text{ori} \), \(\text{ori} \), \(\text{oril} \) and face from which to ori-nasal \(\text{for} \), \(\text{oril} \), \(\text{or

basin to have also fell n self oriol, fr. OF, fr. ML oriole \"ori-cli, 'or also fell n self oriole, fr. OF, fr. ML oryolas, fr. L aureolus golden, dim. of aureus golden, fr. aurum gold; akin to Lith aukras gold, Arm or-ki gold and prob. to L aurora dawn — more at EAST) 1: any of various usn. brightly colored Old World birds constituting the family Oriolidae — see FIO-BRD, OOLDEN ORIOLE 2: any of various American birds of the family letteridae 3: LEATHER 4 ori-oli-dae \seconds

the degrees of ~ Evelyn Underhill)

o-ri-um \Green joe ~ Evelyn Underhill)

o-ri-um \Green joe \Green joe in sulfix, pl -o-ri-ums \Green joe \G

a large heavy harness horse that is usu. black and a lighter speedier horse that is commonly gray and is sometimes used for racing Or-lon \'or, lin, 'o(o), l\'\text{trademark} 1 — used for an acrylic fiber made in filament or staple form, characterized often by its high bulk and soft warm hand, used esp. in bulky suitings, in knitted goods, and because of its resistance to sunlight in curtains and awnings, and often blended with other fibers in fabrics 2: a yarn or fabric made of Orlon fiber or-lop deck of large of the large of orlong fir. ME overlop deck of a single-decker, fir. MIG overlop, lit., something that overleaps, ir. over + 15p leap, fr. lopen to leap, run; akin to OHG ubar over and to MD lipen to run — more at over, leap 1 : the deck below the lower deck: the lowest continuous deck in a ship having more than three decks — see Deck Illustration 2: the lowest deck in a ship porture \'ormar\' n -s [F dial (Isle of Guernsey), prob. fr. or- (fir. 1 auris car) + mer sea, fr. 1 mare; fr. the shape of the shell — more at EAR, MARDEJ: ABALONE of moulu, lit. ground gold 1 archaic: gold ground for use in gliding; also: metal glided with ground gold 2: a brass made to imitate gold and used in mounts for insure and for other decorative purposes — called also mosaic gold 3: something showy rather than genuine (some ~ vocal numbers ~ Nat Hentoff) (fiction relating inordinate and ~ violence — Times Lit. Supp.)

Lit. Supp.) ormolu varnish n: a varnish used to give the appearance of

Lit. Supp.) ormost tensing mortunate and ~ volence—Times Lit. Supp.) ormost varnish n: a varnish used to give the appearance of gold or-mo-sta \(\oldots (r) \) mozh(Ep) \(n, cap \) [NL. ft. Gk hormor chain, necklace + NL -ic; ft. the use of its berries at beads — more at SERES]: a genus of shrubs and trees (family Leguminosae) chiefly of So. America and Central America with pink to reddish wood — see JIMBY BEAN, NECKLACE TREE of the supple of t

also embellithment, floritum
207-na-ment \(\tau_{-ment} \), \(\text{-ment} \) \(\text{

of na-ment ist \ ment of ornaments of ornaments rubric n second ornaments objects of other properties of o Lomanu, past par (10) and continuar to ordinar to ordin

or-nate-ly adr [ME ornaty, incornate manner
or-nate-mess n -es: the quality
or-nate-mess n -es: part part
or-nery or on-ery or or-naty
or-nery or or-naty
or-nery or or-naty
or-nery or-nate,
or-nate-mess n -es: the quality
or-nate,
or-nate,
or-nate-mess n -es: the quality
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or-nate,
or

in individualistic sometimes to Yankees are an ~ lot, but they CONTRARY OTHING /**EIL orman I ADORN OTHIS /**I ADORN OTHIS /*

Or nith-o-del-phes \s.ss'del()fc: \-lfc\[NL, ir. ornith- + -delphe, womb) — more at DOLPHN] syn.

overflow against are ~ed by its supply water to tem 5 a: to eem 5 a : to rue of water in
susses were ~ed
(sediment ~ed
ries: Mich.) (a
back onto their
specified place
)! water (someip shoal water
water ~ed overwas ~ea over. at away by the ~ed by heavy action of water a break in the orth, gravel, or e the valuable cles) from ore c: to remove words tending Jusen) d(1) off impurities gaseous mixip purifying it 108 2a e: to 3 a: to cover whitewash or of color: tint to of the wild arm in palest cam in palest to depict or th a brush oat) with with a thin with silver use to swirl tances con water (~es he action of d —Russell L impaired, away (their some cer some cenrubbing or ier : DRIFT ered (this sfully sub-lation (his heory that that vary ow waves er. Guide ng sound n) c: to ke a wash nnection nen (did s shrank lothing) e eshing things nd gave James) ground overed Stuary. called REFUSE ity for washy a few

ng or lation if by irned, slow) idens inned a flat ings

tugged at the loose ends of his scarf—Howard Hunt) d: the dissipated current or force in the trail of an intellectual or social movement: F hard to know how much... is solid accomplishment the last, and how much is the ~ of a war ~ J.R. Walsh)

a member or mate... when given a slope to shed water (weathering b: a structure or receptacle shaped so as to receive and carry off water (weathering b: a structure or receptacle shaped so as to receive and carry off water (wash '\dot' \dot' \do' \dot' \dot' \dot' \dot' \dot' \dot' \dot' \do' \dot' \dot' \do' \do' \do' \do' \do'

wash bottle n: a bottle or liask provided with one bent tube passing through the stopper for directing a stream of water on anything to be washed or rinsed and with means for forcing (as by blowing into a second tube passing through the stopper or by squeezing if the bottle is flexible) the water through the

washbowi \'s,s\ n : a large bowl for water to wash one's hands and face — called also washbasin

-colored \'e,=e\ adj: colored as if with a wash or water

color washing clothes (as of a family or institution) (on the evening of the second ~—Flora Thompson) wash durt n: earth washed or to be washed for gold: WASHING

wash dirt n: earth washed or to be washed for gold: washing stuff wash-dish *e_e, in sense 2 *wash, or *wäsh, *n 1: washeowl 2 [so talled fit. the motion of its tail resembling the motion of one washing dishes] dial Eng: PPE WAGTAL wash down vi 1: to move or carry downward by action of water or other liquid; specif : to facilitate the passage of (food) down the gullet with accompanying swallows of liquid (bolted a hot dog and washed it down with soda) 2: to wash the whole length or extent of (washed down and scrubbed out with disinfectant, making sure that no corners or grooves . . . are missed out —Henry Wynmalen)
washdown **e_r* adj [wash down]: constructed with provision for washing contents downward (a ~ water closer)
wash drawing n: water-color painting in or chiefly in washes epp. in black, white, and gray tones only
washed past of wash
washed-ourd cheese **e_r*\ n [washed, past part of *wash*]
: cheddar cheese in which the curd is washed before being pressed into forms to remove a portion of the whey, lactose, and soluble milk salts and produce a soft body with open texture

pressed into forms to remove a portion of the whey, lactose, and soluble milk salts and produce a soft body with open texture washed metal n: iron treated so as to remove most of the silicon and phosphorus and not too much of the carbon washed—out \(\forall \cdot \cdo

wash_hand \(\frac{n}{e_n}\) \(\lambda \) \(\frac{n}{e_n}\) \(\frac{n}{

washing machine n: a machine for washing; specil: a usu, power-driven machine for washing clothes and household linen

washing powder n: a powder for washing (as a soap powder or a powder containing a synthetic detergent and alkaline builder)

or a powner containing a synthetic detergent and alkaline builder) washing soda n: sodium carbonate a(3) washing soda n: sodium carbonate a(3) washing stuff n: an earthy deposit containing gold that may be extracted by washing wash-ing-ton \wo.shington, \wo.shington, \wo.shington \wo.shingt

washington grass n, usu cap W & often cap G: a water shield

(Cabomba caroliniana)
washington handpress n, usu cap W [after George Washington 1799]: a hand-operated printing press perfected about 1829

ion †1799]: a hand-operated printing press perfected about 1829

wash-ing-to-nia \.e.*'ion\[a_\]\ n. cap [NL. fr. George Wash-ington †1799 + NL -ia]: a genus of massive fan palms of California and adjacent Mexico having large plicate leaves cut nearly to the middle and often bearing filaments on their margins and a smooth trunk bearing a large shaggy mass of persistent dead leaf remains washingtonia \"\[INL. fr. George Washington †1799 + NL -ia] syn of Osmorhiza

washingtonia \"\[INL. fr. George Washington †1799 + NL -ia] syn of Osmorhiza

washingtonia \"\[INL. fr. George Washington †1799 + NL -ia] syn of osmorhiza

washingtonia \"\[INL. fr. George Washington †1799 + NL -ia] syn of osmorhiza

washington †1799 first president of the United States + E -on]: of, relating to, or characteristic of George Washington (L. Washington, Capital city of U.S.A., or northwestern state of U.S.A. + E -on]: of, relating to, or characteristic of Washington, D.C., or the state of Washington, D.C.

characteristic of the people of Washington, D.C., or the state of Washington 2 washingtonian \"\n -s 1 cap: a native or resident of Washington, D.C., or the state of Washington, D.C., or the state of Washington 2 usu cap [Washington 7 Emperance Society, founded 1840 + E -an]: a member ton Temperance Society washington plan \, \tilde{\text{-un}} \tilde{\text{-un}}

legal holiday in most states of the U.S. — called also Presidents' Day
washington thorn n, usu cap W [ir. Washington, D.C., capital city of the U.S.]: a hawthorn (rataegus phaenopyrum) of eastern No. America that is often cultivated for its brighter of fruit and showy autumn foliage
wash-i-ta \wisch, sic\ adj. usu cap [ir. Fort Washita, Texas]: of or relating to a subdivision of the Comancham — see GEOLOGIC TIME table
washita stone n [ir. Washita (Ouachita) river, southwest Arkansas]: a porous variety of novaculite used csp. for sharpening woodworking tools
washiand \(\frac{v}{a}, \cdot n\); land or a stretch of land washed periodically by an overflowing stream
washleather \(\frac{v}{a}, \cdot n\) 1: a soft leather usu, made of split sheepskin dressed with oil in imitation of chamois 2 chiefly Brit; a piece of washleather or soft cloth used for dusting or cleaning: CRAMOS (was flicking over the radiator with a ~ Nicholas Monsarrat)
wash-man \(\cdot n = n n) n, pl washmen 1 a : a man who washes washes have were president worker who scours cloth during manu-

— Nicholas Monsarrat)
wash-man *\simp*\n, p*\ washmen 1 a : a man who washes clothes b : a textile worker who scours cloth during manufacturing 2 : a man who applies wash (as in tinplate making) wash mull a : any of several machines for washing clay, hides, or materials for cement

(this labrie is washed out) b::
EXHAUST (after his recent illine being) c: to cancel out: CFFF of government reduction of its doposits —T.O. Waage) d: to eih lory: DISCARD, REJECT; specificate) as failing to quality 3 a: the force or action of water (the theavy rains washed out ther game of the doubleheader was pour) ~ w1: to become depictechnicolor makeup ... was pour) ~ v1: to become depictechnicolor makeup ... was 2: to fail to meet requirement specif: to fail in a course of trait 3: wash 2a washout *\frac{1}{2} + \text{N} - \frac{1}{2} - \text{Swath out}\) in one sedimentary deposit and younger deposit b: the washif the bed of a road or railroad by where the carry is washed available.

used outdoors for boiling cloth out there in the yard... around B. Gipson) b: a pot contain plates are dipped to be coated in wash primer n: a primer of low n adhesive and protective properti washrack '*e,* \n : a piece of c: WASHCLOTH

washrag *e,* \n : a piece of c: WASHCLOTH

washrag *e,* \n 1: a room building) equipped with washin TORY 3a 2: a room in a dyen wash sale n: a presurance of first washed

washed washed n: a prearranged fictit real change of ownership that is or to establish a loss for tax pur washstand \\'\circ\'\circ\'\n 1 a: a piec tures of a table and cupboard an outboard and the components of the components o pitcher, basin, or towell for wash washbowl (as of porcelain) pern wall) and attached to water and a a garage) having water and drain of vehicles

of vehicles

washstrake \('=, \n' -s \: \washec

wash-tail \\'wosh, \', \wash, \' n \[is

motion of its tail \] dial Eng : Piet

washtray \('=, \n' \: LAUNDRY TR

washtrough \\', s \n' \: a \text{ iroug}

\'\', s \n' \: a \text{ iroug}

* BUDDLE washtub \'s,s\ n : a tub in whic

washed wash up vi 1: to wash one's face wash up vi 1: to wash one's face the dishes after a meal (went strait was washing up —D.H. Lawrence washing (wash up the spilled milk we've washed up that subject —P washed him up as a heavyweight washup) '*e, *e n · s [went up] 1 a ing clean (thorough ~s. sterilizatiperiment Station Record) (presse product would be lousy beyond b: the act or process of washing washu wash. way,'wosh., 'wish., 'n, dia covered by running water washwheel) '*e, *e n : a smooth of which clothes or other fabrics art washwoman '*e, *e n : n as mooth of which clothes or other fabrics art washwoman '*e, *e n : n as Dakw; washup ('woshe, 'wash. 'woish., adj -eR-/eST [2wash + 'y] 1 a : wafer (they ... on the ~ooz Milton) 'e easily eroding or wash (a ~ hillside) 2 a : lacking in sub. Thin, watery ('they ... on the ~ooz Milton) 'e pealing of color : Pallin (these strong eart of the cherry blossoms ... and it —Anthony West) (a ~ pink or n—E.H.M.Cox) c : lacking in vigit ness (keeping one foot in a sort of Mackenzie) 3 obs : lacking in not character: FRIVOLOUS, LOOS 4 a ing in condition and in firmness of scour or sweat profusely on Sighthorse) b : tending to produce fit mals (~ grass) (~ leed)
was.n't \woz'n(1), 'waz also 'wo dial 'want\ [by contr.]: was not wasp, 'wasp, wasp, 'n segadily, L. vespa wasp, (wefan to weave — more at weahave a slender smooth body with: abdomen attached by a narrow sta well-daveloped wings, biting mou parts, and in the females and work a more or less formidable sting, to belong to many different families a include forms of social as well as solitary habits, and that are larg carnivorous and often provision th nests with caterpillars, insects, spiders killed or paralyzed by sting on — compare spresconset, vesso include forms of social as well as solitary habits, and that are larg carnivorous and often provision the nests with caterpillars, insects, spiders killed or paralyzed by sting on — compare spresconset, vesso the caterillars, insects, spiders killed or paralyzed by st